Technical Studies

Agricultural Science

Associate in Applied Science

Program Description:
The Technical Studies Degree, limited to high school students enrolled in the EDGE program, is designed to provide for cooperatively sponsored educational opportunities leading to the Associate in Applied Science degree and/or One-Year Certificate.

Marshall Community & Technical College delivers educational programs in a variety of occupational fields to businesses and industries having an immediate need for such programs.

Components of the program include the following: general education, classroom instruction in a technical core and in the occupational area, and possible on-the-job training.

Technical Studies students must meet all normal admission and performance standards. Credits earned through either the approved apprenticeship programs or through industry-based education and training programs will not be added to the student's collegiate transcript until the student has completed twelve program credit hours from Marshall Community & Technical College and has obtained at least a 2.00 GPA.

The student who graduates with the Associate in Applied Science Degree in Technical Studies will possess:

• Supervisory skills
• Computer software skills
• Relevant essential math skills
• Written and oral communication skills

Career Outlook:
Advancement of agricultural workers depends on motivation and experience. Farm workers who work hard and quickly, have good communication skills, and take an interest in the business may advance to crew leader or other supervisory positions. Some agricultural workers may aspire to become farm, ranch, and other agricultural managers, or farmers or ranchers themselves. In addition, their knowledge of raising and harvesting produce may provide an excellent background for becoming purchasing agents and buyers of farm products. Knowledge of working a farm as a business can help agricultural workers become farm and home management advisors. Those who earn a college degree in agricultural science could become agricultural and food scientists.

Salary Forecast:
Median hourly earnings in May 2006 for each of the occupations found in this statement are as follows:

- Agricultural inspectors .......................................................... $18.36
- Animal breeders ................................................................. $13.02
- Agricultural equipment operators ...................................... $9.72
- Farmworkers, farm and ranch animals ............................... $9.17
- Graders and sorters, agricultural products ......................... $8.27
- Farmworkers and laborers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse...... $7.95

(Information obtained from the Occupational Outlook Handbook 2008-2009)

Vocational Site Partnership:
In addition, Marshall Community & Technical College (MCTC) offers a One-Year Certificate Program and an Associate of Applied Science in Technical Studies in conjunction with its Vocational Site Partnerships in Cabell, Mason, and Wayne counties at Technical Centers and/or high schools through EDGE.
Major Code – CT20 • Concentration Code - CT28

COMPONENT I - GENERAL EDUCATION¹
COM 112 Oral Communication ........................................... 3
ENL 111 Written Communication ....................................... 3
ENL 231 Technical Report Writing² .................................... 3
IT 101 Fundamentals of Computers (EDGE) ......................... 3
MAT/ SCI Electives³ .......................................................... 6
SS Social Science ⁴ ............................................................ 3
TOTAL CREDITS ........................................................... 21

COMPONENT II - TECHNICAL CORE
AAT 104 Records Management ........................................... 3
HNM 235 Leadership Development Studies⁵ ......................... 3
ISM 133 Principles of Supervision & Management ................. 3
MG 202 Business Organization & Management⁶ ................... 3
MG 209 Occupational Safety .............................................. 3
MK 210 Customer Service⁷ ............................................... 3
MG 226 Commercial Papers & Transactions ......................... 3
MG 233 Personnel Management .......................................... 3
TOTAL CREDITS ........................................................... 9-21

COMPONENT III - TECHNICAL/OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY²
Common Core Courses:
Agriscience & Agriculture Production System Focus:
Agriscience 11 (EDGE)
Agriscience 12 (EDGE)
Agriculture Mechanics Focus:
Agriculture Mechanics I (EDGE)
Agriculture Mechanics II (EDGE)
Animal Processing Focus:
Animal Processing (EDGE)
Food Science and Processing (EDGE)
Agriculture and Natural Resources I (EDGE)
Agriculture and Natural Resources II (EDGE)
Animal Science Focus:
Animal/Veterinary Science: Large Animals
Small Animal Care and Management (EDGE)
Plant Systems Focus:
Greenhouse Technology (EDGE)
Horticulture (EDGE)

TOTAL COMPONENT III HOURS ........................................ 20

COMPONENT IV (OPTIONAL) ON-THE-JOB TRAINING IN THE OCCUPATION (1-12 CREDIT HOURS MAY BE AWARDED)
A letter verifying completion of contact hours must be received by the Associate Dean’s Office, located in the Marshall Community & Technical College Advising Center prior to applying for graduation for credit to be awarded. 160 clock hours equals 1 college credit hour.

HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION: 62

Employment Opportunities:
• Nurseries
• Farms
• Feed & seed stores
• Butcher Shops
• Forestry

Earn A Degree Graduate Early (EDGE):
This program provides students the opportunity to receive credit for their high school EDGE courses.

Contact Information:
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¹ Students must complete a minimum of 3 credit hours with Marshall Community & Technical College to establish academic residency.
² ENL 231 and MK 210 has a prerequisite of ENL 111, COM 111 or COM 111E.
³ Six total Quantitative Skills/Laboratory Science/Experience credits are required. At least one college-level mathematics course must be selected from: MAT 115, MAT 145, or MAT 150. Students may complete the six credit requirement with a second college-level mathematics course or select from the following: SCI 101, SCI 120 or SCI 201.
⁴ Select from EC 102, SS 201, SS 210, or SS 215.
⁵ Required capstone course.
⁶ MG 202 has a prerequisite of MG 101.
⁷ Verification of completion of CTE classes with a score of 74% or better on the final exam must be forwarded to West Virginia Community and Technical College System in Charleston, by course instructor.

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